

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 5, 16 and 20. Please cancel claims 2, 6-15, 17 and 23. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A flow restrictor for a medical aspiration system with a tube having an inner diameter between 1.5 to 2.5 millimeters, comprising:

a filter housing coupled to the tube;

a ~~non-collapsible~~ flow restrictor that is coupled to said filter housing and has a diameter between 0.1 and 1.0 millimeters to create~~creates~~ a non-linear relationship between a fluid pressure and a fluid flowrate for a range of fluid pressures; and,

a filter located within said filter housing upstream from said flow restrictor.

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (original) The flow restrictor of claim 1, wherein said flow restrictor is located within an output luer attached to said filter housing.

Claim 4 (original) The flow restrictor of claim 3, wherein said output luer includes a scaling insert.

Claim 5 (currently amended) An aspiration tube assembly for a medical system, comprising:

an input tube having an inner diameter between 1.5 to 2.5 millimeters;

~~an input luer coupled to said input tube, said input luer having a diameter;~~
a filter housing coupled to said input ~~tube~~luer;
a filter located within said filter housing, ~~said filter having a diameter that is no greater than twice the diameter of said input luer; and,~~
a flow restrictor that is coupled to said filter housing and has an inner diameter between 0.1 to 1.0 millimeters to create a non-linear relationship between a fluid pressure and a fluid flow rate for a range of fluid pressures.

Claims 6-15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (currently amended) A flow restrictor for a medical aspiration system with a tube having an inner diameter between 1.5 to 2.5 millimeters, comprising:

a filter housing coupled to the tube;
filter means for filtering a flow of fluid through said filter housing; and,
~~non-collapsible~~ flow restrictor means, downstream from said filter means, for restricting the flow of fluid through said filter housing and creating a non-linear relationship between a fluid pressure and a fluid flowrate for a range of fluid pressures.

Claim 17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (original) The flow restrictor of claim 16, wherein said flow restrictor means includes an output luer attached to said filter housing.

Claim 19 (original) The flow restrictor of claim 18, wherein said output luer includes a scaling insert.

Claim 20 (currently amended) An aspiration tube assembly for a medical system, comprising:

an input tube having an inner diameter between 1.5 to 2.5 millimeters;
a filter housing coupled to said input tube;
filter means for filtering a flow of fluid through said filter housing;
input means for coupling said input tube to said filter means; and
~~non-collapsible~~ flow restrictor means, downstream from said filter means, for restricting the flow of fluid through said filter housing and creating a non-linear relationship between a fluid pressure and a fluid flowrate for a range of fluid pressures.

Claim 21 (original) The aspiration tube assembly of claim 20, wherein said input means includes an input luer that is pressed into said filter means.

Claim 22 (original) The aspiration tube assembly of claim 20, wherein said filter means includes a filter that is pressed into said filter housing.

Claim 23 (cancelled)

Claim 24 (original) The aspiration tube assembly of claim 20, wherein said flow restrictor means includes an output luer attached to said filter housing.

Claim 25 (original) The aspiration tube assembly of claim 24, wherein said output luer includes a scaling insert.

Claims 26-28 (canceled)